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Germany

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Recent Reports on 13 CSF Cases in Germany Pertain to Wild Boars Only

2006

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Report Highlights:

Germany recently reported 13 cases of classical swine fever (CSF) in wild boars in the county of Euskirchen. All 13 animals were part of a group of 93 wild boars that were shot at two major hunting events. No new outbreaks on commercial farms have been reported since March 2006. CSF in wild boars has been an ongoing problem in the west of Germany in recent years.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Berlin [GM1]
[GM]

Facts on this incident

Ninety-three wild boars were shot at two major hunting events on October 26 and 28, 2006, in the county of Euskirchen in North Rhine-Westphalia in the west of Germany. As is routine, all 93 animals were tested for classical swine fever¹ (CSF), with the result that 13 animals tested positive. No new outbreaks on commercial farms have been reported since March 2006.

The county of Euskirchen is part of a so called "hot-spot-core area" in which several protection measures are already in place. These measures include:

- vaccination of wild boar population (done with inoculated bait),
- keeping the wild boar population at a moderate numbers by means of hunting,
- routine testing of all shot wild boars.

As a result, no new protection measures have been established.

Background on the disease and on previous incidents

Hog cholera/classical swine fever is a viral disease with an incubation period of 1 to 3 weeks. The disease does not affect humans, but is very contagious among swine.

Infected wild boars have been an ongoing problem for the last couple years because protection measures are difficult to apply in wild animal populations. The previously last case in wild boars was reported in January 2006. The last outbreak in a commercial farm occurred in March 2006.

Background on German commercial hog industry

The December 2005 animal census reported 26.86 million hogs in German farms. In 2005, Germany slaughtered 47.8 million hogs and produced 4.46 million MT^{2,3} of pork. Imports amounted to 5.7 million hogs and 863,000 MT⁴ pork, while 1.1 million hogs and 770,000 MT of pork were exported. The majority of the trade is done with neighboring EU countries.

Related reports:

GM6010	03/03/2006	Germany Reports a Hog Cholera Outbreak http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200603/146187010.doc
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¹ CSF is also known as "hog cholera"

² MT = metric ton

³ Carcass weight

⁴ Product weight